

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 4-7, 9-11, 13, 14, 17-20, 22, 23, 25-29, 35, 37-40, 43-45, and 52-54 remain in the application and claims 1, 4-7, 9, 11, 14, 17-20, 22, 25, 26, and 35 have been amended hereby. Claims 3, 8, 12, 15, 16, 21, 24, 30-34, 36, 41, 42, 46-51, and 55-73 have been canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claims 1, 7, 8, 14, 30, 35, 41, 46, and 48 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-3, 5, 7, and 8 of U.S. Patent No. 6,236,832, and of the rejection of claims 1, 2, 7-9, 11, 14-17, 20, 22, 24, 25, 27-30, 32, 35, 41, 42, 46, 48, 55-57, 59-61, 63, 64, and 71-73 under 35 USC 102(e), as being anticipated by Foladare et al., and of the rejection of claims 10, 13, 18, 19, 23, 26, 31, 47, 49, 58, and 62 under 35 USC 103(a), as being unpatentable over Foladare et al. and well known prior art.

Claims 3, 8, 12, 15, 16, 21, 24, 30-34, 36, 41, 42, 46-51, and 55-73 have been canceled, thereby rendering the rejection thereof moot.

Applicant acknowledges the Examiner's finding of allowable subject matter in claims 37-40, 43-45, and 52-54 and of the objection to claims 3-6, 12, 21, 24, 25, and 36 as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of

the base claim and any intervening claims.

Therefore, independent claim 1 has been amended to recite all the limitations of claim 3, independent claim 7 has been amended to recite all the limitations of claims 8 and 12, independent claim 14 has been amended to recite all the limitations of claims 15, 16, and 21, and independent claim 35 has been amended to recite all the limitations of claim 36.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that independent claims 1, 7, 14, 35, 37, 43, and 52, and the claims depending therefrom, that is, all currently pending claims, are in condition of allowance.

Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

COOPER & DUNHAM LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jay H. Maioli". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Jay" and last name "Maioli" clearly distinguishable.

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JHM/PCF:tb